

# LABOR CLARION

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## United States Steel Exposed by "Fortune" As Foe of Democracy

By GEORGE L. KNAPP (I.L.N.S.)

"Fortune," the de luxe magazine which costs a dollar a throw, prints in its current issue an article on the labor policy of the United States Steel Corporation which will be long remembered and quoted—if the Steel Corporation lasts.

The article is at once a blue print and a picture; and ranks high on both counts. The blue print is found in the mass of facts and figures. The picture is in the writing which makes you fairly see the steel workers coming from their unlovely homes and filling the grimy streets on their way to work. But the most revealing fact and utterance in the article, the thing which gives in a sentence the mental measure of the managers of the Steel Trust, is that those managers count the building of comfort stations and urinals as "social welfare work."

Men who could do that may be expected to fall over their own feet in entering the pearly gates.

### Employees Outnumber U. S. Army

"In 1935," says the article in beginning, "the United States army had a strength of 138,000 men. That was some 60,000 men fewer than the number of people who worked for the United States Steel Corporation in the same year. And 1935, you will remember, was no big year for steel. A big year was 1920, when the corporation had on its payroll some 267,000 workers. That figure, too, put the United States army in the shade; it was greater by some 70,000 than what remained of the country's armed forces two years after the world war had ended."

More kinds of men than steel workers work for United States Steel. The "Fortune" article lists "electricians, bricklayers, watchmen, spies, nurses, storekeepers, rent collectors—all going to make up the Corporation's immense and elastic payroll."

### Payroll Shown in Wide Swings

"Elastic payroll" is right. In the first year of its existence the Steel Trust had 168,000 men. The number in succeeding years ranged between 147,000 and 270,000. At present about 196,000 men are on the company's books—but only 77,000 are working full time. And when the numbers were highest the Steel Trust was working men twelve hours a day, with from eighteen to twenty-four hours on the change of shifts.

The labor problem of the Corporation is staggering, says the article, but—

"The Corporation's attitude toward the problem is perhaps more staggering still. For the Corporation's attitude toward the problem is that there isn't any problem."

### Default of Social Bond Serious Matter

"In creating the Steel Corporation," the article says, "Morgan the elder signed a bond for himself and for Judge Gary, and for all their financial and industrial heirs. That bond was a social contract that in return for the profits of managing their vast industrial empire they would deliver to

America, with interest compounded annually, a better way of life for everyone entangled with the enormous influence the Corporation would wield.

"The default of a social bond is likely to be, as the world has now discovered, a matter of concern just as grave as the default of a financial bond. That is the point of view which leads 'Fortune' this month to inquire whether the present management of United States Steel gives evidence of being a prudent trustee."

### Corporation Scorns Dealing with Unions

"The Corporation," the article goes on, "has no dealings with organized labor. . . . 'We do not,' Gary wrote in his lawyer's terminology, 'confer, negotiate with or combat organized labor.'"

Of course Judge Gary was a liar when he said that, and the only error that "Fortune" makes in the whole article is not quoting the proof that Gary lied. Here it is, from a resolution passed June 17, 1901, by the executive committee of United States Steel:

"We are unalterably opposed to any extension of union labor, and advise subsidiary companies to take a firm position when these questions come up, and say that they are not going to recognize it."

### Labor's Charges Against Steel Upheld

But the summing up of labor's charges against Steel is splendid.

"It is charged with depressing wages and lengthening the hours of labor, with spying upon its workmen both inside the plants and in their homes, with debauching unions, corrupting union leaders and, with imperturbable aplomb, grinding down its workers day and night, . . . constantly menacing labor organizations. Above all, the Corporation is attacked for suppressing any measure of democracy, not only in its plants but in the communities which it dominates; for denying free speech and the right of assembly to its employees; for intimidating workmen who are dissatisfied with their working conditions; for preventing, in a

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## Teaching of Freedom Must Be by Free Men

"If the teacher is to teach freedom, he must be free," said Dr. Alexander Meiklejohn, former president of Amherst, discussing the question of teachers' freedom in an address before the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco last week.

"Teachers must not only be allowed freedom of discussion, but they must present all sides of controversial issues and take a firm position in order to make their teaching effective," he said, continuing:

"Of the two theories of government, control by violence and suppression, and decision by free discussion, we see examples of the first in Russia, of the second in America.

"If we are to teach freedom, it must be taught by free men—not slaves."

"To suppress teachers is to choose the way of violence. It would be to depart from the fundamentals of American life."

"If we do this, the decision between communism and capitalism will be made in blood."

## Lewis Committee to Assist in Organizing Great Steel Industry

Financial and organizational aid has been pledged to the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers for an early joint campaign to organize the steel industry, in a letter addressed by Chairman John L. Lewis and Secretary Charles P. Howard of the Committee for Industrial Organization to President Michael F. Tighe of the Amalgamated Association.

Restlessness among steel workers is reflected in demands made upon the Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corporation by a national committee representing company unions in the corporation's various plants.

### Company Unions Make Demands

The committee, headed by John J. Mullen and including ten workers elected under the company union plan in Pittsburgh and Youngstown district plants, asked Benjamin F. Fairless, company president, for recognition as the national collective bargaining unit in matters affecting wages, hours and working conditions.

It also requested an understanding on the procedure to be adopted for a general demand for a 15 per cent wage increase and a forty-hour week.

The third proposal made to Fairless by the committee was for a board of arbitration, preferably some government agency, to decide disputed points between workers and management.

### Company Refuses Recognition

Fairless said he would consider the arbitration proposal, but rejected the request for recognition of the committee as bargaining unit. He maintained hour and wage demands might be made through individual plant company unions, as against the committee's plea for national negotiations.

Failure to get wage and hour improvements through company-dominated unions is increasing the demand in their ranks for genuine labor organization. Some company unions already have broken with their employers and become independent unions.

Recent attempts at labor activity through company unions include the demand of employees of the American Steel and Wire Company for a 15 per cent wage increase, forty-hour week and vacations with pay.

Company unions of the American Sheet and Tin Plate Company banded together last year to demand a 15 per cent wage increase but were turned down.

The company union at the Aliquippa plant of the Jones & Laughlin Company also asked wage increases, vacations with pay and other improvements—but the company rejected its requests.

### TOREADORS STRIKE

Spanish toreadors of Madrid, Spain, called a strike against foreign competition in the bull-fighting industry. The walkout followed a bull-fighting permit granted the Mexican toreador Armilita by the ministry of labor.

## Union Organization Is Exclusive Concern Of Labor, Says N.L.R.B.

The Protective Motor Service Company, Philadelphia, engaged in the business of transporting valuables in armored cars, has been directed by the National Labor Relations Board to rehire eighteen drivers and guards discharged because of membership in Local Union No. 470, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Stablemen and Helpers of America.

The company also was ordered to post notices at its Philadelphia plant "stating that it will not discharge or in any manner discriminate against members of, or those desiring to become members of, the union."

In making public its decision the N.L.R.B. issued a significant statement of its position on employer attempts to influence labor organization, declaring that "union organization is the exclusive concern of labor."

### Union Men Threatened

The Protective Motor Service Company had about 125 employees in October, 1935, when the Teamsters' Union began to make efforts to organize the company's drivers and guards. President Marsh of the company issued a warning that those who persisted in union activities would be discharged. The group of men who attended subsequent meetings of the local despite this threat were dismissed as rapidly as substitutes could be found.

A hearing in the case was conducted on January 8, 1936, before Trial Examiner Walter Wilbur at Philadelphia. It was shown by testimony that the men who had been discharged were employees of from two to ten years' standing, whose work had always been satisfactory. President Marsh asserted at the hearing that he had dismissed them because he considered their failure to notify him that they were going to join a union an act of insubordination. He also declared that discussion

concerning the union disturbed his non-union men and that he regarded it to be his duty to protect his non-union men from arguments on the subject. The board's decision makes the following comment on this position:

"That union organization is the exclusive concern of labor; that employees may advance that objective in any legitimate and orderly manner; and that they are entitled to the protection of the board if the employer interferes with or coerces them in the exercise of their right to organize, are elementary principles of the legislation under which this board is constituted.

### Organization Up to Labor

"The open intimidation of employees in the exercise of this right, with which this record is replete, is as incompatible with the policy of the act as respondent's persistent spying and other covert interference with the union activities of its men. It is for the employees alone to decide their method of organization and when the fact of its existence shall be disclosed.

"So long as efficiency is unimpaired, to discuss union problems on the company's premises, and in an orderly manner to urge non-union men to join, is wholly permissible. It follows from the premise that the employer is under a duty not to interfere with the organization of his men, that he may not undertake to protect his non-union labor from the persuasion of the union employees. To this principle the act recognizes no exception based upon supposedly fortunate conditions of employment."

### LABOR BOARD ENJOINED

Federal Judge F. A. Geiger of Milwaukee, Wis., has issued a temporary injunction restraining the National Labor Relations Board from holding a hearing on the complaint of the Milwaukee Newspaper Guild charging the publishers of the "Wisconsin News" with violating the Wagner-Connery Labor Relations Act.

### Miners Want to Participate In Liberality of Government

Senator Pope of Idaho said in a letter to President Roosevelt that mining concerns which "refuse to pay standard prevailing wages to their employees" should be excluded from operation of the administration's silver-purchasing program.

Pope told the President he had received "substantially the following statement" from Idaho miners:

"I have found through experience that there are numerous mining concerns who are deliberately taking advantage of the silver-purchasing policy of the government. They are unhampered in exploiting the resources and also the labor by mining silver and gold ores and paying labor starvation wages at the same time they graciously accept the government's liberal price together with a bonus. Miners doing the hazardous skilled labor feel that they should share in the benefits offered by the government in mining silver and gold."

## United States Steel Is Foe of Democracy

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thousand devious ways, that free expression of political belief that is a fundamental part of the American tradition."

"Fortune" finds all these charges justified, particularly the last. Electricians in the Chicago area report that the Steel Trust pays their trade wages 40 per cent below the union grade. The Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers have listed thirty steel companies in twelve communities which pay from 27 to 73 per cent below the union's scale. And on industrial tyranny "Fortune" bluntly says:

"When liberals complained of the lack of free speech in the steel towns they were merely discovering what steel workers had taken for granted for twenty years."

In 1929 steel workers were estimated to earn an average of \$33 a week. In 1923 they averaged about \$13. Averages are deceptive, for laborers in the plate mills were earning \$3.75 a week before the steel code was adopted.

### Trust Takes Toll of Most Living Costs

"One hundred and sixty unskilled and semi-skilled workers in Duquesne whose incomes were investigated were found to have earned an average of \$368 for 1933. Sixty got less than \$100; forty-seven got less than \$300. In steel towns centralized ownership kept living expenses almost constant. In Gary, gas, light and water bills were paid to the same company—formerly a subsidiary of United States Steel—and non-payment of a gas bill was penalized by turning off light and water as well as gas. In 1932 it was estimated by a Gary newspaper man that the water supply had been turned off for 5000 families in a city of 100,000 inhabitants."

"Fortune" adds that rents in Gary—which was built by the Steel Trust—averaged from \$6 to \$10 a room, and that four families sometimes live in a three or four-room flat.

The "welfare work" of United States Steel is accurately measured by the comfort stations and urinals mentioned before. It also ranks company-owned dwellings and boarding houses as welfare work.

### UNION CHARTER SUSPENDED

The charter of the Port Arthur, Texas, local of the International Seamen's Union has been suspended by the international officers, following an indication that the seamen would affiliate with the Maritime Federation of the Gulf, says an I. L. N. S. dispatch.

### Commission Charges Brokers Rigged New York Stock Market

The action of the Securities and Exchange Commission in accusing the international investment banking and brokerage house of White, Weld & Co., New York City, with manipulating the price of a listed stock and requiring the firm to show cause why it should not be suspended for twelve months or be expelled from the New York Stock Exchange, the New York Curb Exchange and the Chicago Board of Trade, was interpreted as another step in the commission's policy to free stock exchanges of certain evils which have resulted in losses to investors and large profits for dealers.

The commission charged that the brokerage concern had created a false and misleading appearance of activity in the common stock of the A. O. Smith Corporation by means of what are commonly known as "wash" sales, which consist in giving both buying and selling orders for the same security at approximately the same time.

## Mexican Government Condemned by Green For Exiling Morones

A strong criticism of the recent action of the Mexican government in expelling Luis N. Morones, vice-president of the Pan-American Federation of Labor and executive head of the Mexican Federation of Labor, and jailing a number of other labor leaders, was issued in Washington this week by President William Green of the American Federation of Labor after a conference with Morones held at the A. F. of L. headquarters.

Green's statement said in part:

"Brother Morones was expelled from Mexico and driven into exile. He was not accorded a trial by a jury of his peers nor was he permitted to face his accusers. Former President Calles and a number of others were forcibly driven out of Mexico with him. In addition thirty-nine leaders of the Mexican Federation of Labor are in prison in Mexico, not because they have committed crimes against the government but simply because they are known to be labor leaders. All this is shocking to the sense of justice and fair play so universally held by the officers and members of organized labor in the United States."

### Friendship for Mexican Workers

"The American Federation of Labor recognizes the right of the people of the Republic of Mexico to administer their own affairs free from interference on the part of any other nation. We recognize the right of the people of all countries to ordain and order their political and social affairs in such a way as may suit their needs."

"We, the officers and members of the American Federation of Labor, have constantly sought to cultivate, establish and maintain the most friendly relations with the people and the government of Mexico. For more than a quarter of a century we have extended a full measure of support to the working people of Mexico in all the efforts they have put forth to win for themselves the exercise of the right of liberty and freedom. This traditional friendship for the people of Mexico was clearly demonstrated when, in the long struggle against the tyranny of Dictator Porfirio Diaz, we gave to the Mexican people all assistance and support possible."

### Mexican Labor Federation Persecuted

"It was made clear to me, through the report submitted by Brother Morones, that the Mexican Federation of Labor is making a heroic fight for preservation of its existence and the principles which it has espoused. It seems inconceivable that the Mexican government would direct a destructive attack upon this organization, which forms such an important part in its institutional life."

"The American Federation of Labor views with a feeling of deep concern and grave apprehension the apparent determination of the government of Mexico to wipe out the Mexican Federation of Labor and drive its leaders into exile."

"Without appearing to interfere in the internal affairs of Mexico, we feel justified in offering a vigorous protest against such action. We are doing this because we wish to see real genuine liberty and democracy preserved in Mexico for the enjoyment of its working people and because, through our close association with the Mexican Federation of Labor through membership in the Pan-American Federation of Labor, we are concerned in its welfare and well-being."

"We sincerely hope that governmental authorities in Mexico will change their attitude, withdraw

their policy of persecution of the Mexican Federation of Labor and its officers, and make real and vital the principles of freedom, liberty and democracy within the Republic of Mexico. We will feel both relieved and gratified if we are privileged to learn that a return to a regard for the rights of labor has come to Mexico. We hope that may be soon."

### Tyrannical Acts of Government

"A long list of detailed accounts of persecution and aggression against the rights of labor which I regard as most serious has been laid before me; among these, the censorship of the press, the denial of meeting places for the use of unions associated with the Mexican Federation of Labor, defiance of the conciliation and mediation machinery set up by law, and of the labor courts, for the purpose of outlawing the Mexican Federation of Labor and the local organizations affiliated with it. These acts were climaxed by the forcible arrest and expulsion of Brother Morones, chief officer of the Mexican Federation of Labor and an honored officer of the Pan-American Federation of Labor."

The officers and members of the American Federation of Labor will maintain the traditional policy which it has always pursued in relation to the internal affairs and the self-governing rights of Mexico. We covet that the Mexican Republic shall, because of its adherence to the principles of righteousness and justice, win for itself the respect and decent opinion of mankind. We would be false to the highest and best tradition of the American Federation of Labor, however, if we failed in this great emergency to protest against unjust and indefensible treatment accorded our fellow workers in the Republic of Mexico."

### CARPENTERS' WAGE RAISED

A new wage scale for Vallejo carpenters, effective June 14, was announced this week by John A. Edwards, acting secretary of the Vallejo Central Labor Council. The \$1 an hour rate will be raised to \$1.12½ an hour.

### FOR BUSINESS EXPANSION

Wage increases throughout industry are essential. In rising wages and shorter hours lies our only present hope of laying a solid foundation for business expansion and preventing an early collapse.—American Federation of Labor Monthly Survey of Business.

### Accident Insurance Obligation Is Ignored by Many Employers

Approximately \$5,300,000 in workman's compensation premiums were cleared through the state industrial accident commission during 1935, Timothy Reardon, commission member, declares.

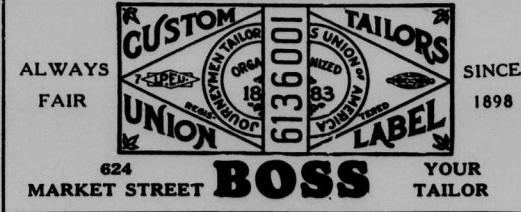
Estimating almost 70,000 employers not protecting their workers by insurance, Reardon said:

"Despite laws making it obligatory on California employers to carry workman's insurance, many have not followed orders."

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## Federal Trade Board Cites Court Record In Answer to Critic

Stephen M. Du Brul, one of the officials of General Motors, knows now how to sympathize with the boy who tickled a mule's heels to see what the mule would do. He reported to the doctor and nurse that, "anyway, I found out;" and so did Mr. Du Brul.

In a speech before an audience of more or less big business men, Du Brul "went after" the Federal Trade Commission. He denounced its investigations as meddling, and said:

"The fact that the commission has lost so many cases on appeal to the courts speaks for itself."

The F. T. C. replied in an open letter to Du Brul that its record in the matter of cases carried to the courts "does speak for itself."

"From January 1, 1933, to date, thirty-one of the commission's orders have been taken to various circuit courts. The commission was affirmed in twenty-nine and reversed in two of these cases in the Circuit Court of Appeals, but in the two cases in which the commission's orders were not sustained by the Circuit Court of Appeals those courts were themselves reversed by the Supreme Court of the United States, and the commission upheld. One case in which a Circuit Court of Appeals sustained the commission was reversed by the Supreme Court.

"The net result is that in thirty-one commission cases taken to the higher courts the commission has ultimately lost only one. That was by a five-to-four decision by the Supreme Court in a Section 7 Clayton act case not involving any trade association question, in which the Circuit Court of Appeals had affirmed the commission."

Du Brul has not yet answered the F.T.C.'s letter. The F.T.C. doesn't expect that he ever will answer it.

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## Unemployment Figures

A presidential election is approaching, and the importance of such an event, which will determine the policies of the nation for the next four years, is taken by the politician to warrant extreme measures in the way of propaganda.

Take unemployment figures, for instance. If it can be shown that these have been exaggerated, and that instead of twelve million unemployed there are but three million jobless, the politician figures he can show that President Roosevelt's "new deal" legislation is no longer necessary.

The American Federation of Labor, in its monthly survey, declares there are 12,184,000 unemployed in the United States. The National Industrial Conference Board, a statistical organization maintained by great corporations, has estimated that 9,649,000 are unemployed.

And now comes the New York "Sun" with an estimate of but 3,084,300 unemployed. But the newspaper's survey "did not include such categories as agriculture, public service and professional service." The newspaper admits that its figures covered but 58.7 per cent of all fields of employment.

But on the strength of this admittedly incomplete survey the "Sun" characterizes as "preposterous" the A. F. of L. figures, and calls upon William Green to give exact figures on employment in various trade groups affiliated with the Federation.

When the depression got into full swing, soon after it started, all manner of "estimates" of the number of unemployed were published. It was impossible then as it is now to secure exact figures. But among the mass of statistics printed it was soon recognized that those of the A. F. of L. most nearly approximated accuracy, and they have since been given quite general credit. It is likely that the Federation has access to more reliable information on the subject than any other organization, and Green will have no difficulty in supplying the facts asked for.

In the meantime the A. F. of L.'s figures on unemployment probably will be taken by the general public as more reliable than those of a newspaper whose dominant wish is to discredit them, or of an organization of industrialists whose interest it is to minimize unemployment conditions.

The "housing problem" of the next decade is not the mere abstract and kindly concern of a handful of social workers and reformers. It is not even primarily labor's concern. A bad housing shortage will affect every family in the country, and act as a brake on every branch of business and trade activity. This is why a national housing program should be actively advocated by labor, management and consumer alike.—William Green.

## Finger-Printing

The American Civil Liberties Union, while not officially opposed to voluntary finger-printing, points out the following facts:

"Though the finger-print provides a more positive means of identification than do signatures or photographs, it can be determined only by an expert. The ordinary man cannot tell the difference—or similarity—between one print and another. Police and detective bureaus already have ample means for identification of doubtful citizens. Criminals and vagrants are finger-printed. So are "agitators," strike leaders, and strikers. (One of the arguments against universal finger-printing is that it facilitates the blacklisting of strikers. There is, however, no reason to believe that blacklisting has ever been difficult). The main value of the finger-printing would come in the case of identification of bodies after some major disaster, flood or earthquake. It is hard to believe, however, that the possibility of such disasters justifies the vast expense and annoyance of finger-printing the entire population.

"Probably the most important consideration is the psychological effect of finger-printing in a world where the freedom of the individual is already lost in so many nations. Although there may be no legal right to privacy, Americans enjoy and feel a natural right to more individual freedom than do the citizens of any other nation. Voluntary finger-printing will inevitably lead to compulsory finger-printing. And compulsory finger-printing may lead to far graver encroachments upon the freedom of individuals."

## Encouraging Return of Japanese

A subject that may well engross the attention of trades unionists and central labor unions, especially on the Pacific Coast, is a plan said by a local newspaper to be in process of formation to return an estimated 50,000 American-born Japanese now in Japan to the United States.

The plan, which is said to be attracting increasing attention, is declared to be sponsored by the secretary of the Japanese Association and to have been under way for two years, in the face of heated protests from various Japanese factions. More than a thousand of these American-born Japanese are reported to have returned on Japanese ships alone during 1935.

The program includes issuance of printed material and promotion of lectures in Japan to acquaint American-born Japanese with American industrial conditions; issuance of requests to steamship companies to grant special rates to groups of ten or more; addressing of letters to all Japanese Associations requesting their aid in securing employment for returning American-born Japanese.

Local Japanese organizations opposed to the movement hold forth the following objections: That the movement will create an economic problem; because of differences between white American and American-born Japanese groups, serious problems of intermarriage and adjustment will arise, and that condemnation by American labor organizations would result.

Further facts revealed by the news story are that Tatsuki Sakada, wealthy president of the Courtland Japanese Association, returned from Japan with several American-born Japanese and told of his efforts on behalf of the movement in Japan.

Even now two emissaries are touring Japan in an effort to increase the flow of Japanese-Americans back to the United States.

Impetus was first given the movement when a bill was introduced in Congress whereby American citizens who remained abroad for more than two years would be subject to expatriation.

Objections to the plan have been voiced by American-born Japanese still living in California, who feel that to encourage such a mass movement

will seriously reflect upon their own welfare and lead to a misunderstanding of their position.

Efforts should be made to head off this threatened influx of Oriental workers at once. Could there be anything more idiotic than to permit such an addition to those seeking employment here at a time when millions of workers are on public relief?

## Working Students Shine

The theory that getting a college education is a full-time job has been upset by the National Youth Administration, says a United Press dispatch from Chicago.

It appears that President Roscoe Pullum of Southern Illinois State Normal University reported that 194 students who worked part time at N.Y.A. jobs during the last term far outclassed the several hundred other students in general scholarship.

The percentage of N.Y.A. students receiving grades of above B plus was 34.53, while the percentage of other students was 22.26.

"The very marked superiority of the scholarship of the N.Y.A. group was something of a surprise to me," Dr. Pullum told N.Y.A. officials. "I think it indicates that the federal government is certainly making a worthwhile investment in these young people, who, in spite of the fact that they spend three hours daily at work that presumably has little to do with improving their grades, are able to keep their scholarship up to a superior standard."

## A Few Facts to Remember

It is the absolute constitutional right of any person lawfully within the United States to go to any place in it, whether he is wanted there or not, and there to engage in any lawful activity, even one which local sentiment does not desire. It is not against the law to be an "outsider," a "radical" or an "agitator," and it is the legal right of workers to organize and to strike, and of other persons to urge them to do so. Even if, in pursuance of these lawful purposes, unlawful acts are done, it is still the right of the accused to be tried and punished by the law, and not otherwise. There is no offense whatever for which the law prescribes the penalty of ejection from the county, without trial, whether by the sheriff or by vigilantes. It is a crime to subject even murderers or robbers to that treatment.—Chester Rowell.

The Securities and Exchange Commission revealed this week that George W. Hill, president of the American Tobacco Company, received as salary for 1935 the sum of \$212,000, or approximately \$700 for every working day. The niggardly sums paid to the non-union tobacco workers of this concern are not mentioned. Union members should determine not to assist in paying such enormous salaries. Plenty of union-made tobacco products, including cigarettes, may be obtained, the purchase of which helps fair employers to pay decent wages to workers instead of paying princely salaries to officials of companies who also are heavy stockholders.

The unexpected has happened in the steel industry. Company unions, formed under employer auspices to prevent wage increases and enslave workers, are making demands through the medium of "a national committee representing company unions" in the various plants of the Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corporation. From this point it is but a step to the formation of real unions. If John L. Lewis's committee should succeed in organizing this industry under the American Federation of Labor banner it will have justified its existence.

## Rev. Coughlin's Advice

In a letter to the editor of the San Francisco "News" a writer signing himself "Matthew R. Thomas" quotes from Father Coughlin's newspaper of April 10 some exhortations to students and young workers and gives his opinions thereon. His comments on the good father's admonitions are so apt, and probably reflect the thoughts of so many readers of the Labor Clarion, that the letter is herewith reproduced:

"Father Coughlin's free paper, 'Social Justice,' in its issue of April 10, contains the following exhortation:

"'You students! Form in your school, as quietly as possible, a vigilance committee. If professors and teachers encourage the study of communism and fascism, contrary to our traditions of Americanism, make that fact known to the public. Make certain of your facts, then inform your local newspaper by open letter, signed by title of your committee.

"'You young workers! In your factory, mill or office there are those who believe in communism and fascism, and who covertly or openly spread their doctrines. Form there a vigilance committee that will keep employers and the public informed of these harmful activities. Enlist the aid of your employer; he hates these doctrines as you do. But above all, make sure of your accusation, then act swiftly. Keep yourselves in the background, and pledge your members to absolute fairness.'

"Can you detect any difference between this proposal and the activities of the American Liberty League, the Hearst newspapers, the American Legion and similar anti-liberal forces? Do you observe the recommendation that the students' vigilance committee, 'as quietly as possible,' furnish the local press, including, presumably, the Hearst press, anonymous ('signed by the title of your committee') attacks on Hearst's enemies, the long-suffering professors and teachers? Shades of 'Children's Hour'!"

"Do you observe the recommendation to the young workers that they 'enlist the aid' of their employer, 'then act swiftly'? I dare say we may expect the labor spy agencies, under current investigation in Washington, to oppose with vigor Father Coughlin's amateur (and rate-cutting) competition. But how about the Scripps-Howard chain, particularly the S. F. 'News'? Can you expose to your readers this exact parallel to methods adopted by Father Coughlin's model, whom 'Social Justice' says 'is Germany today'?"

### House Committee Kills Bill To Control Wages and Hours

The Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives has blocked for this session at least action on the Walsh-Healey bill authorizing the inclusion of wages and hours standards in contracts awarded concerns dealing with the government.

The Walsh bill passed the Senate during the last session of Congress. It was bitterly opposed before the House Judiciary Committee by employers who zealously advocated long hours, low wages and sub-standard labor conditions.

Representative Arthur D. Healey of Massachusetts introduced a bill modifying certain portions of the Walsh bill. But even this measure, known as the Walsh-Healey bill, failed to win over the committee. They refused to favor it by a ten-to-six vote and then, to finalize the matter, voted to table the bill, which, according to usual procedure, means that it can not be called up again in committee this session.

### TEMPORARY CHEST DIRECTOR

Mrs. Louise P. Grabow will act as executive director of the Community Chest pending the appointment of a permanent director, Daniel E. Koshland, chairman of the general executive committee, announces. She occupies the position vacated by Ray W. Smith, who has assumed his new post of executive of the Exposition company following eight years' service with the Chest.

### Heroic Work of Union Miners Saved Victims of Gold Mine

Had it not been for the skillful, courageous, continuous efforts of union workers, Dr. D. E. Robertson and C. Alfred Scadding, both of Toronto, entombed in an abandoned gold mine at Moose River, N. S., for 240 hours, would not have come out alive from their prison, 141 feet below the surface of the earth. Herman R. Magill, also of Toronto, died about seventy-five hours before his companions in the cavern were carried out alive.

Members of the United Mine Workers of America on the mainland of Nova Scotia, and also the island of Cape Breton, volunteered in the work of rescue, most of them paying their own railroad fares or coming on their own account in cars to the isolated little mining hamlet. The union miners' locals at Stellarton, Westville, Pictou, Springhill, Joggins, Dominion, New Waterford, Glace Bay, Sydney Mines, were represented in the desperate drive to dig down to the imprisoned men before all of them had succumbed. Three days before the men were taken out alive, and the body was also removed to the surface, contact by a pipe line was established with the entombed men, by use of a diamond drill. Liquid and powdered foods were sent down the line to the men, then without food for a full week.

The union miners had to take great chances with their lives in digging down to the cave-in victims. The walls were treacherous, and then there was great danger from old timbers and old iron and steel supports which were rotten. The final phase of the digging was through rock for two solid days and nights. The rescuers worked on shifts, with sleeping spells of not more than four hours. A fund of \$10,000 has been subscribed for the rescuers, having been started at Toronto, and covering all of Canada. In addition to miners of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, a party came from Timmins, Ontario, to help.

### Resettlement Progress

More than 15,000 low-income farm families, or approximately 75,000 individuals, in Region 9 have received financial aid through the rural rehabilitation division of the Resettlement Administration, according to a report by Jonathan Garst, regional director.

This aid was given in the form of loans for the purchase of stock and equipment, and temporary grants in cases where subsistence income was necessary while loan applications were pending.

Families receiving aid were on relief rolls or were not able to earn a livelihood from their land for lack of stock or equipment, and could not obtain financial aid elsewhere. Many of these families are now self-sustaining and the money they borrowed is being returned to the government.

The report revealed loan commitments total \$3,528,000, divided as follows: California, \$1,538,000; Utah, \$1,425,000; Nevada, \$215,000; Arizona, \$350,000.

Garst pointed out that the rehabilitation of these low-income rural families not only is enabling them to earn their own livelihood from their land, but also has reduced the relief burden and stimulated the sale of farm equipment and supplies.

### Comment and Criticism

#### I. L. N. S.

The New York Central, Pennsylvania, New Haven, and several other Eastern railroads will put the 2-cent fare, ordered by the Interstate Commerce Commission, into effect on June 2. But they will also go into the federal courts to show that the I.C.C. order is "unconstitutional." It is, the roads named declare, "an unwarranted invasion of managerial privilege."

"Some folks jest can't learn nothin'," runs the backwoods proverb; and there are times when the phrase seems to fit some high and mighty railroad managers like a glove. Consider the situation. Railroads everywhere have lost passenger traffic to busses and private automobiles. In some parts of the country they are losing it still. In other parts, the rails have begun to win back their former passenger traffic—and how?

By lower rates and better service. The Southern Railway took the lead in establishing lower fares on parts of its lines, and advertising the fact. The plan worked so well that the Southern extended it to all lines, and its competitors hastened to do the same. At the same time, the proposal was adopted on some roads in the West; and everywhere it has been effective.

The same daily papers that reported the sulkiness of some of the big Eastern roads carried the report of W. A. Harriman, chairman of the board of the Union Pacific Railroad. Charging rates as low as or lower than those whose bare mention has thrown the Eastern magnates into fits, the Union Pacific reports that its passenger revenues in the past year increased 21 per cent. The same papers, too, told how the Baltimore & Ohio and a group of subsidiary B. & O. lines welcome the change.

\* \* \*

Workers in the biggest brewery of Madrid, Spain, struck for higher wages a few days ago. The strike lasted forty-eight hours, and then the strikers took possession of the brewery, hoisted the red flag over it, and carried on the business as usual.

Something of the sort happened on a much larger scale in Italy a few years after the end of the world war; and was made the excuse for the fascist movement culminating in the dictatorship of Mussolini. As an excuse it had the defect of not being true. Seizures of this sort were ended months and years before the "march on Rome" which established the fascist regime.

\* \* \*

There is a strong resemblance, in spite of many differences, between the disturbances since 1918 and those which followed the Napoleonic wars which ended 103 years before the armistice. The kings and kinglets assembled in Vienna in 1815 broke all their promises to their subjects of liberal government if they would help to crush Napoleon, and parceled out Europe to suit themselves, thinking their work would last forever.

It lasted six years. In 1821 the Greeks rose against the Turks; half of Spanish America flamed out in open revolt, and there were serious disturbances in other countries.

In 1930 France had a revolution; Poland made a gallant but hopeless attempt to drive out the Russians; England began a series of important reforms.

#### LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONES

An examiner for the Federal Communications Commissioner testified this week that the American Telephone and Telegraph Company had taken in \$180,000,000 of excess profits on its long distance business in the last twenty-two years. The long lines, the witness added, "enjoy a monopolistic position, and have been relatively free from regulation."

## Describes Brutality Of Milwaukee Police In Newspaper Strike

The Milwaukee Newspaper Guild is still carrying on a vigorous fight against the unfair "Wisconsin News," and in spite of difficulties, such as court action and the brutality of police in their attempt to prohibit picketing, apparently is undismayed.

The Northern California Newspaper Guild is doing its part to assist the strikers, and as a result of its recent "Front Page Frolic" was able to send a substantial contribution to the strikers.

The following "log" of the sixty-fifth day of the strike, evidently written by one of the strikers, may prove of interest as showing the manner of struggle the Guild is engaged in:

"One minute the pickets were shouting and singing, stumbling over the unfamiliar words of adopted songs and laughing at their mistakes. They walked fast, because the April night was chilly, but the line was orderly.

### Officers Accused of Sadism

"The next minute a man raised hands to eyes blinded by blood streaming from a cut inflicted by a police blow; another staggered under the impact of a rabbit punch; there was a clatter of breaking glass as the red Guild sound truck almost disappeared under a blue wave of officers. Women, sick, shaken, terrified, trying to grope their way toward the end of the line, were caught between two solid walls of police, who crushed them back to the center. Not until the officers had had their fill of sadism did they disperse the crowd.

"For the second time since the start of the strike Milwaukee police, acting apparently in pre-meditation, had attacked and beaten men and women making peaceful protest against Hearst's refusal to bargain with the Guild.

"This sort of things, unless you've been in it—even when you've been in it—seems a little unreal. It's like a bad dream; all the time that it's going on, somewhere in your mind you're thinking, 'But this isn't really happening; it can't happen.' And then you see one of the girls, coughing and breathless. A police officer has punched her in the breast. You see an older woman, protesting to the officer, watch him pull back his foot and kick her. You see Gunnar Mickelsen, vice-president of the Guild here, a friend of yours, dragged and pulled into the patrol wagon; the officer's fist comes back, strikes, and your friend goes down. You hear Vern Partleau, one of the strikers, arguing with an officer, 'My wife's in that car there that

your men are wrecking. Good God! don't you understand? I've got to see what's happening to her.' And you hear the answer, 'The hell with that stuff; get out of here, damn you!'

"It's all over. When the street before Hearst's newspaper building is once again clear, a picket leans against a post, being sick. The sight of the brutality, and his own helplessness in the face of it . . .

"And why? You want to know. Why did this happen?

"Police Captain John Polcyn (the officer who told one of our pickets, an American citizen, that he'd like to send him back to Russia) says it is because Mickelsen, at the loud speaker, was making remarks which 'might have led to a disturbance.'

"But the remarks which Polcyn attributed to Mickelsen were heard by none of the people on the picket line. On the contrary, the loud speaker's message several times during the evening urged the pickets to be orderly, pointed out that the police—almost equal in number to the pickets—"aren't here because they want to be."

### Attack Apparently Timed

"We are still asking questions. What psychic power conveyed the idea to the police that the extemporaneous remarks which 'might have led to a disturbance' were to be made at a certain hour? Why did they consult their watches so frequently and nervously as 10 o'clock approached? Why did one officer say to another, 'There's one of the men we're going to get'? Why did an arresting officer tell a prisoner, 'You're one of the boys we want'?

"The Guild didn't want violence. J. Nash McCrea, strike chairman, when he saw a blackjack in the hands of a detective, protested, saying he feared that such provocative tactics might cause trouble. The detective swung at Mac. Mickelsen reported the incident over the loud speaker. Then, with a shout of 'Slam in and clean them up,' the police charged. They swarmed all over the sound truck, broke a window, damaged expensive power equipment, tried to destroy the outside wiring.

"Those arrested, besides Mickelsen, were John Kehrli, Bricklayers and Masons' Local No. 8; Jimmy Randall, Waiters and Cooks' Local 122; Joseph Mullen, Hod Carriers and Building Laborers' Local 113; Bob Collentine, research worker. Arraigned in district court on disorderly conduct charges, they demanded a jury trial, and had their bail raised from \$40 to \$100 each. The cases were placed on the day-to-day calendar by Judge Page to await the calling of a jury."

### INDORSES ROOSEVELT

The Alabama Federation of Labor has adopted a resolution indorsing the renomination of President Roosevelt and the actions of the newly-organized Labor's Non-Partisan League.

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## Building Service Men May Strike Once More

Renewal of the recent strike of the Building Service Employees' Union in New York, affecting approximately 40,000 men, was regarded as a threatening possibility following the action of the Realty Advisory Board in sending a letter to affiliated realty owners charging that the wage award handed down by Ferdinand A. Silcox, chief forester of the United States, was unfair and invalid in parts, and advising them to take court action to protect themselves against it.

The action of the board, which, with its 2200 members, is the largest group of realty owners in New York City, was taken on advice of Walter Gordon Merritt, the board's legal adviser.

By the terms of the Silcox award loft and office buildings are divided into the following classifications: Class A, those with a gross area of more than 280,000 square feet; Class B, those from 120,000 to 280,000 square feet, and Class C, those of 120,000 square feet or less. In loft buildings the minimum wages fixed by the award for the three classes respectively are \$26, \$24 and \$22 a week for elevator operators. In office buildings the minimums are: Class A, \$28 per week; Class B, \$26, and Class C, \$24.

James J. Bambrick, president of the Building Service Employees' Union, said the action of the Realty Advisory Board "is a violation of the obligation undertaken by the realty owners when they agreed, in response to the plea of Mayor La Guardia, to enter into honorable arbitration proceedings," adding:

"The union stands by the award and will insist that the Realty Advisory Board do likewise. In this connection I wish to state that this is the first time within my memory that any group of employers ever tried to run out on an award which had full moral and legal basis, backed and sponsored by the mayor of the city and the general public."

### Cincinnati Clothing Strikers

#### Brutally Beaten by Armed Guards

One of the most cowardly attacks ever made against a group of striking workers in Cincinnati occurred Friday, April 10, when company thugs in the employ of the strike-bound Ohio Custom Garment Company, a clothing firm which operates under the names of the Robert Tailoring Company and the Brighton Tailoring Company, attacked three strikers, members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, as they were leaving the picket line in front of the plant.

Armed with blackjacks, the thugs brutally beat Leo Darpel into unconsciousness. The two others, Joseph Pesa, and Frank Root, escaped with minor injuries. Leo Darpel was taken to a hospital, where he is suffering from severe head injuries. The three injured men are known as leaders of the strikers.

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## Hazards of Silicosis Cause Rate Revision By State Commission

Higher workmen's compensation insurance rates for sixty-one industries in which silicosis and other dust hazards are present have been ordered by State Insurance Commissioner Samuel L. Carpenter in a final decision that follows months of study and a number of public hearings.

Industries affected by the ruling, effective June 1, include mining, foundries, stone quarries, clay products, glass manufacturing and other industries involving foundry operations.

Rules and rates set up as protection against the industrial dust hazard, only recently recognized and which leads generally to permanent and total disability, will be revised "as more mature experience is available," Carpenter stated.

### Lower Than in Other States

The actual rates for each industry affected are not yet available, Carpenter declared:

"The rates are published on the basis of a surcharge or an additional rate for the hazards and vary in accordance with the industry involved, from 34 cents to \$5.61 per \$100 of payroll.

"The average rate is approximately \$1.70. Comparatively, these rates are less than one-half of the rates allowed in New York for the occupational disease hazards and about one-third of rates in many other states."

The order carries with it a scheduled rating plan, allowing employers reductions in insurance costs up to 50 per cent of the rate for adoption of approved safety measures and equipment, the commissioner declared.

Carpenter declared rates and rules in the workmen's compensation insurance manual now in use are "inadequate in so far as they apply to those classifications of work in which employees are subject to hazards" of "pneumoconiosis," or dust disease.

In making public his decision, Carpenter said:

"In the history of the workmen's compensation administration in this state there has never been a subject of such statewide interest, or upon which there was so much divided opinion between the various factions involved."

He pointed out that considerable study in recent years has been given to the elimination of harmful dust in various industries and declared:

### Experience Will Govern Revision

"The employers of this state will unquestionably utilize this knowledge for the benefit of their employees. The insurance commissioner has signified his intention of revising the rates as soon as more experience is available."

The rates announced are not designed to compensate insurance carriers for any past losses, the commissioner said. Provision is made for the future, requiring all carriers to post loss reserves on this hazard for ten years after expiration of each policy.

Rates approved by Carpenter were recommended by the California Inspection Rating Bureau after attempts failed to get the silicosis compensation bills through the 1935 Legislature.

"Any change in administration of the benefits of workmen's compensation laws, increases or decreases in number of claims, or in the amount of actual awards, will call for immediate revision of rates," Carpenter promised.

Insurance carriers must furnish the commissioner with claims data every ninety days, beginning June 1.

## Hard Coal Strike Is Averted By Further Extending Agreement

A strike of about 105,000 anthracite coal miners was averted when officials of the United Mine Workers of America and the anthracite operators, after a conference with Edward F. McGrady, assistant secretary of labor, agreed that operations were to be continued under the present contract pending further negotiations. McGrady acted as the direct representative of Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins.

John L. Lewis, president of the union, immediately sent telegrams to the various locals instructing them to comply with the agreement and remain at work. The strike was to have gone into effect on May 1.

The old agreement expired on April 1. It had been extended until April 30, midnight, while negotiations were in progress.

The conference, which began on February 24, is mainly divided, it was assumed, on the question of wages, the miners having asked for a considerable increase, while the operators persistently demanded a decrease. Other demands made by the miners include the thirty-hour week, the complete "check-off" and equalization of work.

The contract under which the anthracite industry is working was first adopted in 1923, when Governor Pinchot of Pennsylvania used his influence to settle a hard coal strike. It was extended in 1927 and again in 1930.

## "Teachers' College News" Subsidy Stopped Because of "Radicalism"

The second drastic action against Columbia student publications taken this academic year was the announcement that William F. Russell, dean of Teachers' College, had withdrawn a weekly financial subsidy of \$100 an issue to "The Teachers' College News." Dean Russell further forbade the use of the phrase "Teachers' College" in the title of the paper.

No explanation of his action was given the staff of the publication by Dean Russell. It is believed by the students that the action was taken because of the "too radical" policy of the paper and because it had urged the students in editorials to support striking employees of the college during the recent elevator strike.

### GARAGE EMPLOYEES TO DANCE

Garage Employees' Union No. 665 will hold its second annual benefit ball on Saturday, May 16, at California Hall, Polk and Turk streets. The finest of music has been obtained for this occasion in the form of Val Valente and his orchestra. Several acts of entertainment will be given by talent from local night clubs, and an abundance of refreshments has been provided for. The Garage Employees invite all members of organized labor and their friends to attend this affair.

## Another Suit Filed In Seamen's Quarrel

Adding to the complications arising from the dispute between the International Seamen's Union and its Pacific Coast affiliates, the Alaska Fishermen's Union has brought suit in the San Francisco Superior Court naming the International as defendant.

The Alaska Fishermen seek a declaration from the court that all the union's obligations to the International should be interpreted in the light of the terms of the International's 1930 constitution rather than the 1936 constitution, under which the Sailors' Union of the Pacific was disfranchised by the International.

Two other lawsuits arising out of the dispute between the International and the local groups are awaiting trial.

One seeks a permanent injunction to prevent the International from organizing another union here, and the other involves the title to approximately \$30,000 in funds now on deposit in San Francisco banks.

### TO COMMEMORATE ENCYCLICALS

Nation-wide observance of the fifth and forty-fifth anniversaries, respectively, of the two basic Catholic documents on economic life is announced by Most Rev. Edwin V. O'Hara, episcopal chairman of the Social Action Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference. The period of the commemoration is around May 15, the date of the issuance in 1891 of Pope Leo XIII's encyclical on the "Condition of Labor" and Pope Pius XI's encyclical on "Reconstructing the Social Order" in 1931.

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## Run o' the Hook

(This department is conducted by the president of San Francisco Typographical Union No. 21)

Thomas Wright, well known California printer, whose serious condition, due to an infected foot, was reported in last week's issue of the Sacramento "Union Labor Bulletin," died April 26 at the Union Printers' Home at the advanced age of 79 years. Mr. Wright, of English birth, had been a resident of the Home twenty-one years, having been received there from Sacramento Typographical Union No. 46. Mr. Wright had many friends among the older group of printers in San Francisco, where he worked some years ago. He had also been employed as a clerk in the county courthouse at Sacramento. His funeral was in Colorado Springs April 28. Information concerning Mr. Wright's passing came to San Francisco through personal correspondence from a Home resident.

The following were placed in nomination as officers of Sacramento Typographical Union at the April meeting of that local; President, J. H. Gwinn; vice-president, Al Klein; secretary-treasurer, Warren E. Coman; sergeant-at-arms, Frank Hobbs; trustees, C. W. Walser, Mel Burrus and H. C. Jillson; executive committee, W. C. Crook, J. A. Pollitt, Walter Moran, Rolla R. Roberts and Henry Wilkinson; reading clerk, James M. Byrne; board of auditors, Paul G. Martin, T. G. Ingram and Clyde E. Bruegger; joint standing committee, Ralph Titus and J. H. Gwinn; "Journal" correspondent, C. R. Switzer. The union will send two delegates to the I. T. U. convention in Colorado Springs, Ralph N. Titus and W. C. Crook being chosen, with C. R. Switzer and Clyde Bruegger as alternate delegates. The delegate to the State Federation of Labor convention is William B. Swenson. M. Burrus is the alternate. C. R. Switzer and J. H. Gwinn will represent Sacramento Union in the California Conference of Typographical Unions. None of the nominees for office has opposition.

The management of the San Francisco "Shopping News" has announced that all regular employees will receive two weeks' vacation with full pay at the prevailing rate. Substitutes who have been with the "Shopping News" continuously for the last three years will receive one week's vacation with full pay.

Winfield Scott, well known machinist-operator, who has worked in the Bay area at various times the last quarter of a century, was a San Francisco visitor last week, having "dropped down" from Stockton, where he is employed on the "Independent."

Earl W. Ralston of the "Examiner" chapel, Harry H. Stafford of the secretary's chapel, Charles R. Hopewell of the "Examiner" chapel and Claude L. Gilmore of the Compton Printing Company chapel were placed in nomination at the April meeting of Los Angeles Typographical Union as candidates for delegate to the I. T. U. Colorado Springs convention. While entitled to four delegates, Los Angeles Union will send only two to this year's convention. F. H. Hoganson, M. M. Wilson, F. J. Brug and Ike Kerfoot were nominated as candidates for alternate delegates.

There has been no cessation of hostilities in the battle of organized labor in general and the printing trades unions in particular against the anti-union Curtis Publishing Company of Philadelphia, publishers of the "Saturday Evening Post," "Ladies' Home Journal" and "Country Gentle-

man." As in all such prolonged engagements, there comes an occasional lull, which is usually followed by deeper roar of the conflict. This has developed into a real fight, with the forces of organized labor more determined to win the contest than ever. With the continued co-operation and support of all trade unionists, their friends and sympathizers, the printing trades, which have been and are still bearing the brunt of the battle, are confident the Curtis Company ultimately will capitulate.

James V. Tonkin, formerly an active member of Typographical Union No. 174 and one of the former owners of the Southland Publishing Company, has recently been elected grand master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons of California, one of the highest branches of the Masonic fraternity. For some years Mr. Tonkin has been very active in Masonic circles, and is editor and manager of the "Masonic Review"—Los Angeles "Citizen," May 1. (Mr. Tonkin is a former affiliate of San Francisco Typographical Union, which he served in many official capacities with honor to himself and the local. Early in life "Jimmy" formed the habit of making a success of his undertakings, and his San Francisco friends feel that this new venture will prove no "exception to the rule.")

Paul Lanz Speegle, son of James M. Speegle of the Walter N. Brunt Press Chapel, was successful in his examination for admission to the state bar this month, making the grade with a high average. Mr. Speegle obtained his collegiate degree from Stanford University, and his law degree from Hastings College of the University of California.

Multnomah Typographical Union of Portland, Ore., has accepted an offer of 30 cents per day increase made by the newspaper publishers of the Rose City, with retroactive pay from March 1. The agreement will terminate December 31, 1937. Negotiations had been in progress almost six months before the settlement was reached.

Thirty "divoteers" teed off at Ingleside golf course last Sunday in the first tournament held by the newly formed Allied Printing Trades Golf Association. The committee was well satisfied with the initial turnout, as well as with some of the impressive scores chalked up. L. Henno of the "News" chapel won low gross with a 75, while low net honors were taken by Paul Bush of the Knight-Counihan chapel with 65. John Victor of the "Examiner" color press tied with Bush for second gross with 79. Both champs and "dubs" were enthusiastic over the tourney, and prospects of a larger turnout for the next gathering, to be announced later, are very bright. Golfers in any of the allied trades are asked to get in touch with Ralph Trickle of the Wall Street "Journal" or J. E. Mead of the "Shopping News," and sign up with the new golf club.

G. E. Mitchell, Sr., of the "Call-Bulletin" chapel, who has been convalescing from an attack of pleurisy, has been elected to represent Abou Ben Adhem Lodge of Odd Fellows at their annual convention to be held in San Diego. Mr. Mitchell, with 150 other delegates, will leave for the Exposition City next Sunday. The Southern Pacific has placed a special car at the disposal of the delegates.

### URGES ROOSEVELT'S RE-ELECTION

Representative Henry Ellenbogen of Pennsylvania, sponsor of the Ellenbogen textile control bill, strongly urged the American Federation of Hosiery Workers to back the re-election of President Roosevelt. Speaking before the annual convention of the Federation in Philadelphia, Ellenbogen said that the President has been "100 percent for labor and labor legislation."

If the organized worker wants his share of the wealth he produces, he should buy his share of the union-made products that create the wealth.

## "Treason to State"

Declaring that private business must share the responsibility for ending unemployment, the Canadian minister of labor, Professor N. McL. Rogers, denounced employers who enforced low wages.

"It seems to me," he added, "that if we find an employer taking advantage of the present situation to pay low wages, we as a government are entitled to use the weapon of publicity to the fullest possible extent in order to brand that policy as treason to the state in a time of great emergency."

Labor members challenged the minister to bring in a bill making low wages an offense under Section 98, the famous addition to the criminal code which has been used to suppress strikes and unemployed demonstrations.

### Waterfront Controversy Adjusted By Prompt Action of Judge Sloss

The first controversy to arise on the waterfront since the recent agreement growing out of the Santa Rosa incident came up last week and was promptly adjusted by Judge M. C. Sloss.

Contending that a cargo of scrap iron collected by Italians of San Francisco for shipment to the Italian Red Cross was contraband, longshoremen refused to load the motorship *Feltre*.

An emergency meeting of the Longshoremen's Labor Relations Committee was called, and Judge Sloss asked to preside. After a half hour of discussion Judge Sloss ruled the cargo should be handled under the recent peace pact, and gave the longshoremen an hour in which to comply.

Within the hour the longshoremen began loading the cargo, part of which was left here by the last ship of the line because longshoremen refused to handle it.

### SPANISH SEAMEN STRIKE

Growing discontent caused by the determination of Spanish shipping operators to continue imposing the low-wage policy on seamen has resulted in a strike which paralyzed Spain's entire merchant marine. Six labor syndicates, composed largely of seamen, called the strike when the operators refused to consider demands for higher wages. The fishermen's union joined the strike.

### CHILD LABOR CONDEMNED

Emphatic condemnation of the employment of children was contained in a statement on social and industrial relations included in the declarations of principles adopted by the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America after a two-day meeting in New York. "The use of children as wealth producers," the statement said, "should be condemned for folly and injustice, and in the future the demand of industry should not be allowed to prevent any child from securing the full opportunities of education as a human being and as a citizen."

### CHURCH UNIFICATION

The general conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, meeting at Columbus, Ohio, has committed itself to a program of unification with Methodist branches to form the world's largest Protestant body—a Methodist church having 8,000,000 members in forty-two countries. Conference delegates voted 470 to 83 to approve the program of union with the Methodist Episcopal Church South and the Methodist Protestant Church after their leaders visioned in pleas for the merger the possible union of all Protestant churches into a single denomination.

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## Mailer Notes

By LEROY C. SMITH

By the time this appears in print eight months will have elapsed since the 1935 convention of the M. T. D. U. was held at Montreal. Among the business transacted at that convention, as shown by printed copies of its proceedings, was a proposition submitted to the resolutions committee by the executive council of the M. T. D. U. The resolutions committee was composed of members active in M. T. D. U. affairs—John W. White, (chairman), of Indianapolis; John W. Coleman, of Boston; Frank R. Cowing, of Kansas City, and Charles F. Anderson, of New York. The resolution: . . . "Whereas, Information has reached your executive council that representatives of the I. T. U. have . . . advised newly-organized unions that they are to have nothing to do with the M. T. D. U.; and Whereas, The I. T. U. has refused to issue charters to newly-formed mailer unions where said unions have been organized by members of the M. T. D. U.; and Whereas, It appears to your executive council that the I. T. U. now proposes to organize new mailer unions upon condition that they do not affiliate with the M. T. D. U.; now, therefore, be it Resolved, That this convention go on record instructing the executive council to prepare a suitable charter as the charter of the M. T. D. U.; and be it further Resolved, That the M. T. D. U. charter new mailer unions under the M. T. D. U." The committee reported favorably. The resolution was adopted unanimously.

The resolution overlooks the fact that two federal courts have decided that, according to I. T. U. laws, the sole power to charter mailer unions is granted the I. T. U.; and the further fact that a recent amendment adopted to the constitution of the I. T. U. strengthens the power of the I. T. U. in this matter and acts to forestall the mailer injunction process by the M. T. D. U. or any other mailer unions. And another fact to be borne in mind is that the said resolution was not submitted to the convention by any delegate or delegates, but by the executive council itself. To date the executive council of the M. T. D. U. has made no efforts to carry out said resolution; neither has there been voiced any complaint, so far as can be ascertained, by members of the resolutions committee or others for the failure of the executive council to do so. The M. T. D. U. officers meanwhile continue to draw their salaries and expense accounts, while their members pay the dues and assessments toward the upkeep of the M. T. D. U. At a previous convention of the M. T. D. U. the president of that organization, in making his report, stated he "was more firmly convinced than ever that the mailers needed an M. T. D. U." At the Chicago convention the delegates adopted a proposition instructing the executive council to send to a referendum a proposition to increase dues from 25 to 50 cents a month. In regard to that proposition the president reported to the Montreal convention that "the executive council had considered the consequences

of submitting it to the referendum and witnessing its defeat." And so, the president further said, "Your executive council decided it was far better, if need be, your executive council be criticized than that the rank and file suffer ill effect, as would result had the proposition been submitted to a vote and defeated."

The president's flimsy excuse will not bear analysis. The real truth of the matter, it developed, is that a majority of members of several unions threatened to secede in case M. T. D. U. officers sent the proposition for increase in dues to a referendum. The printed proceedings of the Montreal convention show no criticism of M. T. D. U. officers. On the contrary, a unanimous vote of confidence was given those officers, "for their untiring efforts in behalf of the organization." As in other M. T. D. U. conventions, the "rubber-stamp" delegates voted unanimously to concur in the official "slate" prepared by its officers. "Logical reasoning," doubtless, for failure of the M. T. D. U. officers to carry out mandates of the Montreal convention, will be given at the Colorado Springs convention by them, as was the case at Montreal. It is to be hoped more working mailers will debate in their union meetings, Why hold an M. T. D. U. convention at Colorado Springs? and further, Why continue paying dues to an M. T. D. U. that gives them no benefits, but officers' reports that mean no benefits to them? Officers' reports show that, as the dollars roll into the M. T. D. U. treasury, they rapidly roll out, in salaries and expense accounts of M. T. D. U. officers.

Earl Ennis, in "Smoke Rings," in the San Francisco "Chronicle" of April 29, evidently was misinformed when he wrote of the funeral of a lately deceased member of No. 18 being delayed for lack of suitable garments for deceased. The member's burial, or cremation rather, was conducted by the president, officers and members of No. 18 in accordance with I. T. U. and local laws in a befitting manner.

### Nineteen Sailors Expelled by Eastern and Gulf Association

Vice-President David E. Grange of the International Seamen's Union of America announced Saturday last in New York that Joseph Curran, chairman, and eighteen other leaders in an "outlaw" strike against ships had been expelled from the Eastern and Gulf Sailors' Association, Inc.

Grange said the action would bar them from employment on ships of some eighty lines which signed contracts permitting the union to fill all crew vacancies. All the men are in the sailor class.

Curran was a leader in a crew strike at San Pedro, Calif., in March, against the Panama-Pacific liner California, and later assumed leadership of the "rank and file" revolt against the union's contract and its officers.

## Culinary Crafts Notes

By C. W. PILGRIM

Cooks' Union No. 44, at its last regular business meeting, donated \$10 to the Modesto defense and \$10 to the workers on strike against the American Metals Company at Terreiro, N. M.

The Four Aces, 79 Fourth street, is open. It is lined up 100 per cent with all our unions.

The trouble with the Artiste, at 434 Geary street, has been adjusted. This house is now O. K.

The Gordon Fish House, in the Ferry building, has been lined up in all unions and in future will hire all help from our halls. This is now the only union house in the Ferry building.

Lad's Buffet, 1332 Van Ness avenue, is another house that has been lined up O. K.

The Lyric, at 116 Jones street, opposite the Cooks' Union headquarters, has finally decided to line up O. K.

The Fair, at Bush and Montgomery streets, has been opened by George Newson as a saloon and restaurant. He will employ about twenty of our members. This place is O. K.

The Del Mar Club, 2796 Hyde street, has opened with a full union crew.

If you eat on Clement street kindly patronize either the Splendid, 740 Clement street, or the Coney Island, on Sixth avenue. These are the only two union houses around Clement street. Also tell your wives not to buy bakery goods from the Foster White Lunch.

When you are around Van Ness avenue and Jackson street eat at Grisson's Steak Shop, which is a full union house. Don't eat at the Fawn, on the opposite corner. The boss of the Fawn refuses to do business with our unions.

Avoid Skaff's, 1500 Polk street. There is a news vendor outside during meal hours. We have trouble with this boss.

Walter Cowan, secretary of the Miscellaneous Union, is out of the hospital and back on the job minus one of his legs, but otherwise in good shape.

Remember that all Foster's, Clinton's, White Taverns, Pig 'n' Whistles and the Roosevelt, on Fifth at Mission, are all on our bad books. Please don't use any of these houses. Warn your friends against them.

Culinary workers, don't use any but union-made macaroni. There is a letter in our office from the Paste Makers' Union asking for our help and giving a list of union firms for your information.

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## S. F. Labor Council

Labor Council meets every Friday at 8 p. m. at Labor Temple, Sixteenth and Capp streets. Secretary's office and headquarters, Room 205, Labor Temple. The Executive and Arbitration Committees meet every Monday at 7:30 p. m. Label Section meets first and third Wednesdays at 8 p. m. Headquarters phone, MARKet 0056.

### Synopsis of Minutes of Meeting Held May 1, 1936

Called to order at 8:15 p. m. by President Edward D. Vandeleur.

**Roll Call of Officers**—All present.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**—Adopted as printed in Labor Clarion.

**Credentials**—Cigarmakers No. 228, G. C. Nehring; Longshoremen 38-79, Ove Johnson vice Fred Kopf; Radio Electricians No. 202, James J. Kenney and Jack Plasmier. Delegates seated.

Application for affiliation, Local 1017, Fruits and Vegetable Clerks, referred to Organizing Committee.

**Filed**—Minutes of Building Trades Council. Communication from Director of Industrial Relations Department, T. A. Reardon, stating he had made arrangements with the chief of Maximum Wage Commission for a meeting for consultation with regard to fixing date for hearing dealing with enforcement of the women's minimum wage law.

Referred to Executive Committee—Automobile Mechanics 1305, application for boycott against Pacific Brake Shop, 240 Pacific street. Retail Cleaners and Dyers, credential of proposed Delegate Leon S. Mosgofian. Letters transmitting donations for the Mooney Appeal Fund from Typographical No. 21, Web Pressmen No. 4, Hospital Employees, Waitresses No. 48, Janitors No. 9, Machinists No. 68 and Tailors No. 80.

Referred to Law and Legislative Committee—Resolution presented by Machinists No. 68, advocating indorsement of movement to place criminal syndicalism repeal on the November ballot. Committee will meet on the matter Wednesday, May 6, at 8 p. m. in office of the Council.

Referred to Union Label Section—Appeal for boycott of Renown Stove Company's products of Oswosso, Mich.

**Report of Executive Committee**—Complaint of Glass Workers' Union against Symon Brothers' Wrecking Company, re-referred to parties for adjustment satisfactory to both sides. Wage scale and agreement of Fur Workers' Union explained

### WE DON'T PATRONIZE LIST

The concerns listed below are on the "We Don't Patronize List" of the San Francisco Labor Council. Members of Labor Unions and sympathizers are requested to cut this out and post it.

California Building Maintenance Co., 20 Ninth. Clinton Cafeterias.

Co-Op Manufacturing Company.

Curtis Publishing Co., publishers of "Saturday Evening Post," "Ladies' Home Journal," "Country Gentleman."

Drake Cleaners, 249 O'Farrell and 727 Van Ness. Foster's Lunches and Bakeries.

Fred Benioff, furrier, 133 Geary street.

Goldberg, Bowen & Co., grocers, 242 Sutter.

Goldstone Bros., manufacturers overalls and workingmen's clothing.

Independent Cleaning and Dyeing Works, 245 Van Ness So.

J. C. Hunken's Grocery Stores.

Kroehler Furniture Manufacturing Company.

Mission Hotel, 520 Van Ness So.

Pacific Label Company, 1150 Folsom street.

Petri Wine Company, Battery and Vallejo.

Pioneer Motor Bearing Company, Eddy and Van Ness.

San Francisco Biscuit Co. (located in Seattle.)

Sunset Towel Supply Co., 55 New Montgomery.

Standard Oil Company.

Van Emon, B. C., Elevators, Inc., 224 Fremont.

West Coast Macaroni Company.

All Non-Union independent taxicabs.

Barber shops that do not display the shop card of the Journeyman Barbers' Union are unfair

by committee, and recommended for indorsement, subject to indorsement of the International Union, and advising the union before taking action that might involve it in a strike to return to the Council for further advice and assistance. Wage scale and agreement of Cemetery Workers, to restore former rate prior to the depression, indorsed subject to indorsement of the A. F. of L., with the usual admonitions. Controversy with Marin Dell Company and unions involved with the Dairy and Creamery Employees laid over, awaiting result of pending negotiations with milk producers. Controversy of Automobile Mechanics and Makelin Magneto Repair Company, on refusal of company to discuss differences, committee recommended that the Council declare its intention to levy a boycott. Differences between Millinery Workers and Garage Employees and Auto Mechanics referred to officers of Council for endeavor at adjustment; on the application of the same union for a boycott against Bell Hat Company at 49 Fourth street, committee recommends that the Council declare its intention to authorize the union to boycott. On wage scale and agreement of Filling Station Employees, committee suggested two amendments—first, to change the name of classification of batterymen to battery service men, to avoid jurisdictional conflicts, and second, that Section 18 of the agreement be rewritten to include all controversies and grievances arising during the operation of the agreement, and recommended that as so amended the agreement be indorsed subject to indorsement of the American Federation of Labor, with the usual admonitions and conditions. In the matter of controversy between Culinary Workers and Mr. Prince, concessionaire in Benatar's cut rate drug store, 805-807 Market street, committee failed to bring about an adjustment of the various angles of the dispute, and recommended that the Council declare its intention to place the entire store on the "We Don't Patronize List." Committee recommended the indorsement of the wage scale and agreement of the Pharmacists' Union, subject to the indorsement of the Retail Clerks' International Association. On the circular letter of the American Federation of Labor dealing with vocational education, committee recommended that subject matter be referred to officers of the Council for observation and recommendations when deemed advisable. Report concurred in.

**Report of the Organizing Committee**—Committee recommended the affiliation of Cigarmakers' Union No. 228, and the seating of its delegate, G. C. Nehring. Committee also recommended the affiliation of Radio Local No. 202, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and the seating of its two delegates, James J. Kenney and Jack P. Plasmier. Report concurred in.

**Reports of Unions**—Window Cleaners 44 have negotiated new wage scale with employers; Delegate West also reported on trip to Seattle, where he conferred with a number of representatives of cannery operators, who claim to have secured local recognition of a wage scale far below the one San Francisco cannery workers are suggesting. Masters, Mates and Pilots No. 90 have signed agreements with operators of ships going to

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Alaska, and are also endeavoring to secure agreement with floating reduction plants; favor the repeal of the criminal syndicalism act. Boot and shoe repairers are 100 per cent organized, and thank Brother J. Shelley for assistance. Auto Mechanics donated to Mooney Appeal Fund and are making progress organizing; have also gone on record in favor of chain store tax. Culinary Unions request you not to patronize Foster's lunch places, nor White Log Taverns; also went on record in favor of the repeal of the criminal syndicalism act. Street Car Men, Division 1004, have voted to donate to Mooney Appeal Fund.

**Receipts**, \$242.60; **expenditures**, \$255.80.

Council adjourned at 8:50 p. m.

Fraternally submitted.

JOHN A. O'CONNELL, Secretary.

Note. Demand the union label, card and button when making purchases or hiring labor or services.

J. A. O'C.

Note. The Mooney Appeal mass meeting, scheduled for May 15, has been postponed, awaiting responses from suggested speakers. J. A. O'C.

## Long Hours of Truck Drivers Constitute Peril on Highways

The increasing importance of transportation by automobile trucks is revealed in the report by Harold Butler, director of the International Labor Organization, that the number of persons employed by that industry almost equals the workers employed on railroads. He presented these figures to the governing body of the I. L. O. at its meeting in Geneva.

The working hours and rest periods for automobile truck drivers and the methods of preventing accidents, he said, concerned not only the workers in highway transportation but also all other users of the roads.

Leon Jouhaux of France, spokesman for the workers' group on the governing body, pointed out that French railway crews were relieved after runs of 200 miles, but that auto truck drivers were compelled to complete their trips, often doing 500 miles on runs between Paris and Marseilles.

The governing body adopted a resolution instructing the International Labor Organization to study working conditions in motor transport and offer protective suggestions.

### STRIKE INTERVENTION ASKED

Federal intervention in the strike of hosiery workers at Rockwood, Tenn., was asked by the twenty-fifth annual convention of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers in Philadelphia. George Googe, Atlanta, Southern representative of the A. F. of L., and Edward F. Callaghan, Tennessee-Georgia organizer for the hosiery workers, charged brutality and intimidation in the Rockwood strike and demanded government intervention. The delegates approved.

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## 'United Front' a Sham

Organized labor in Switzerland sees very clearly that the "United Front" plan advocated by the communists to defend democracy against the inroads of fascism is nothing but a sham designed to cloak the real purpose of the satellites of Moscow ultimately to overthrow democratic institutions and establish a red dictatorship.

The question of unity among working men and women, which is stressed by the communists, was recently clarified in a statement by the Swiss National Trade Union Center and the false logic of the communists clearly exposed.

"Everyone will agree with us," the statement said, "that there can never be 'unity' merely for the sake of unity. Thus the question is not just simply, 'United Front, yes or no?' but must be, 'the 'United Front"—for what?" This is the first question on which there must be clarity. Socialist and communist supporters of the 'United Front' recommend it as a way of preventing the threatening fascist danger and of defending and safeguarding civil liberties.

"But he who wants to be taken seriously in the defense of civil liberties must himself respect them. He must do this not only as long as he is in the minority, while civil liberties offer him advantages. He must grant also to others the rights which he wants to use himself. There must be absolute clearness on the point of whether he is prepared—once in power—to respect and protect the civil liberties for which he has striven when in the minority.

"There can be no wavering on this point. Those who admit of it discredit their own cause. Their slogan then only appears as the pretext for attaining quite different aims, and this can not be covered up by a lot of noise. Their whole activity becomes insincere and merits no confidence.

"Those who believe in democracy, those who want to defend and safeguard civil liberties, can not ally themselves with groups which sail under false colors, which issue insincere slogans and pursue quite different aims. The working class organizations joined together in the Swiss National Trade Union Center have drawn the logical conclusions from these considerations. They have firmly abided by the policy of democracy and have refused any alliance with anti-democratic groups.

"There should be no 'United Front' with the communists for the defense of democratic rights. Those who only want to exploit these rights until the situation is ripe for their own dictatorship can not be surprised if other people regard such behavior as an abuse of democracy. The communists are very proud of the fact that, contrary to the social democrats, they still believe in the dictatorship of the proletariat, but in that case they can not complain if their democratic protestations are not taken seriously by anyone."

## Practical Arts Institute Opens Its Classes for Home-Makers

With its household employee classes completely filled and a substantial enrollment in its courses for housewives and household employers, the new Institute of Practical Arts, 300 Page street, held its first classes Monday morning, May 4.

"Don't scold your bride if the biscuits burn; send her to the home-makers' school," might well be the slogan of the Institute, which offers instruction, under graduate home economics instructors, in every phase of home-making from laundry work to flower arrangement, and from cooking to child care.

Young women seeking vocations within the home who take the household employee course, also offered by the Institute, receive certificates of

proficiency on completion of the eight-week course. First positions are obtained for them by the school's placement committee. Enrollment is now open for the second of these courses.

The Institute is jointly sponsored by Emanu-El Sisterhood and the Y. W. C. A.

## Automobile Workers Are Urged to Organize on Industrial Lines

The United Automobile Workers of America, in convention at South Bend, Ind., voted to retain its general headquarters in Detroit. The vote on headquarters was the first action on nearly 200 resolutions prepared for convention consideration.

William Schoenberg, American Federation of Labor organizer of Chicago, and John Anderson, Detroit, district representative of the Mechanics' Educational Society of America, recommended organization of the union on an industrial basis, urging its membership be expanded to include all workers in the industry.

Both speakers warned against any action which might cause a breach with the A. F. of L.

Homer Martin of Kansas City, Mo., was elected president, succeeding Francis J. Dillon, who served during the period of American Federation of Labor control.

Wyndham Mortimer, Cleveland, Ohio, was elected first vice-president; Edward Hall, Milwaukee, Wis., second vice-president; Walter N. Wells, Detroit, Mich., third vice-president, and George X. Addes, Toledo, Ohio, secretary-treasurer.

## "FORWARD, AMERICA"

Shown for the first time in San Francisco, the talking picture "Forward, America" will be presented by the San Francisco unit of the Allied Automotive Industries at the Alcazar Theater on May 21. "Forward, America" is an educational picture, featuring the growth of the chain stores and their effect upon the economic structure of the United States. It was compiled by a former employee of the Federal Trade Commission and is authentic in every detail, showing how the independent merchant is gradually being forced out of business by the ruthless merchandising methods of the chains.

## Mayor Rossi Seeks Settlement of Controversy in Milk Industry

Two meetings of the Consolidated Milk Producers this week failed to arrive at a solution of the labor difficulties that have affected the industry in northern California.

Members are considering an arbitration settlement of milkers' hours, wages and working conditions.

A meeting scheduled for Wednesday consisting of Mayor Rossi, labor and producer representatives, was expected to bring about an agreement.

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## Millinery Workers

By CARMEN LUCIA

The growing Millinery Workers' Union, Local 40, elected and installed its local officers at an impressive ceremony conducted by John O'Connell, secretary of the Labor Council. The meetings are hereafter held regularly at 1212 Market street on every first and third Thursday of each month.

Plans are under way for an extensive organization campaign in the other millinery shops in the city and, judging by the response met so far, unionization of the industry as a whole will be realized by fall of this year.

The benefit dance was a huge success, with hundreds of milliners and friends participating. In view of this success the entertainment committee is planning another dance to be held in the very near future.

"Fifty striking milliners can't be wrong." The Bell Hat Company strike is now in its sixth week, and the enthusiasm of the strikers has not waned one iota, despite the many obstacles and bitter fight they are faced with. The strikers have received communications from the Millinery Manufacturers' Association calling their attention to the new conditions now existing in the Association shops including the Bell Hat Company. These conditions have been secured by the Catalina workers through their collective agreement with the union, and the Millinery Manufacturers' Association has copied all the clauses contained in the above-mentioned agreement and adopted them as their own, thus establishing minimums in the trade and applying time and one-third for overtime. The main difference in this association's "proclamation" to the milliners is the "sub-standard" clause, calling for 33½ per cent of apprentices, while the union agreement does not allow so-called "tolerance" workers but recognizes all workers as the same, and therefore entitled to the minimum wage scales.

In buying your hats be persistent in demanding the union label. Don't forget the old slogan, "Ask and you shall receive."

## Chicago Socialites Threaten

### To Operate as Strike-Breakers

Members of nine fashionable Chicago North Side golf clubs affected by a greens keepers' strike have threatened to mow the grass themselves if managers of the links experience difficulty in replacing caretakers.

Greens keepers and laborers at the Onwentsia, Bob o' Link, Lake Shore, Northmoor, Old Elm, Exmoor, Knollwood and Shore Acres courses and Albert D. Lasker's private links threw down their tools in an effort to obtain 75 cents an hour, an eight-hour day, five-day week, time and a half for Saturdays and double time for Sundays.

## Accepts Applications For Old-Age Pensions

Announcement was made this week by Miss Eugenie Schenk, director of the County Welfare Department, that applications for old-age pensions are now being accepted, and that payments to new pensioners will start when federal funds are received.

A reduced residence requirement is the only change in qualifications, Miss Schenk said. Applicants under the state law, framed to conform with federal provisions, must have resided in California five of the last nine years.

A saving to San Francisco, despite the increased number of pensioners, was forecast, as the federal government is expected to contribute \$112,000 with state funds to the city.

Miss Schenk said 3111 persons are now receiving pensions. She expected approximately 400 to be added to that number by July 1 and forecast it would double within a year.

The Social Security Act provides for an equally divided reimbursement from the federal government of \$15 to the state and county for every aged person receiving a pension of \$30 a month or over. Thus the federal government will pay half and the state and county the other half.

Requirements are an age of 65 or over, citizenship, five years' residence in California of the last nine. Persons with more than \$3000 assessed value real estate or more than \$500 personal property are barred.

### UNION WORKERS FORM BIG CHORUS

Emulating the successful International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union's mixed chorus of 150 voices in New York City, which recently gave a concert at the New York Town Hall, the Chicago Joint Board of the same union has set up a mixed chorus of seventy-five voices under the baton of Ben Pollock. The chorus, in special costumes carrying the union insignia, has participated in union meetings and demonstrations. A full program of songs for the May Day demonstration of the union was given.

### Judge Refuses to Place Ban on Testimony Before Labor Board

Judge John Boyd Avis, in the United States Court at Camden, N. J., has refused to grant an injunction restraining striking employees of the Riverside Knitting Mills, Riverside, N. J., from testifying in a hearing held by the National Labor Relations Board to consider complaints filed by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union charging the concern with violating the Wagner-Connery Labor Disputes Act, which guarantees the workers the right to organize and bargain collectively without interference from employers.

A large number of employees of the mill struck three months ago in a wages and hours dispute.

It was said the company's request for the injunction was the first of its kind on record, although other employers have sought judicial writs to restrain the Labor Board from conducting hearings.

Judge Avis also definitely refused to pass on the constitutionality of the Wagner act, under which the board is set up, despite a long argument made by counsel for the anti-labor company.

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### School Children Disciplined For Refusal to Salute Flag

The expulsion of two little girls from elementary schools in Modesto because they refused to join other children in a salute to the flag was revealed this week.

Sisters, the girls are Bobbie, 11, and Roberta Mole, 9, daughters of a Modesto barber.

The two children, according to school district trustees, told their teachers it would be against their religious beliefs to salute the flag. They professed to be members of a religious organization known as "Jehovah's Witnesses," authorities said.

### Republican Convention Book To Carry Printers' Union Label

John B. Haggerty, president of International Allied Printing Trades Association, announces that the Republican National Committee has awarded the contract for the program book of the Cleveland convention to a firm in that city that will print and bind the book under union conditions. The Allied Printing Trades label will appear on the cover. This is a substantial order, which will give considerable work to members of the various printing trades unions in Cleveland.

### REDUCED GAS RATES FILED

San Francisco users of natural gas will realize savings of approximately \$942,000 a year from reduced rates filed April 27 with the California State Railroad Commission by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company. Upon approval by the Commission the new rates will become effective May 1. Simultaneously, the company filed reduced rate schedules covering service to other parts of its natural gas territory, which, together with reductions being made by its subsidiary, the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, will result in total customer savings of more than \$2,600,000 a year, according to company officials.

### REAPPOINTMENT OF MISS POWER

Governor Frank F. Merriam has reappointed Miss Alice Rose Power of San Francisco as a member of the State Board of Education for a four-year term. Miss Power, who is principal of the Washington Irving elementary school, was originally appointed to the state board in December, 1933.

### DIE MAKERS WIN STRIKE

One hundred employees of F. C. Castelli & Co., Philadelphia tool and die makers, as the result of a strike declared early in February, won an agreement from the firm which includes recognition of the union, wage increases, a five-day and forty-hour week, discharge of strike-breakers, reinstatement of strikers, and equal distribution of work.

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### Public Hospitals for Use of Non-Indigents

(Kern County "Labor Journal")

The hospitalization petition, asking for a proposed change in the constitution of California which would allow county hospitals to accept non-indigent patients, is deserving of consideration and approval. The End Poverty League, farm, civic and labor organizations are sponsoring this petition. However, it is up to each person individually to sign same and secure the right to vote on the privilege of using what is rightfully his.

Kern County has maintained an open hospital policy with great success the last few years. This county has been the center of the legal fight against this policy, and recently the Appellate Court placed an injunction on the hospital, with a resulting blacking-out of the "open hospital" policy. Then the Supreme Court denied a rehearing of the case, with the result that the people of the state are demanding that a law be written into the state constitution allowing the treatment and care in county hospitals of non-indigents.

Why shouldn't the taxpayers who pay for maintaining the county hospitals have the privilege of using same when necessary? Why shouldn't they have the privilege of using what is theirs? However, it is up to the voters to demand this right. The way to do this is to sign the initiative petitions that will place this measure on the ballot for all to vote on. The Kern County Hospital League, Haberfeld Building, Bakersfield, is sponsoring the petition.

### MODESTO DEFENSE BENEFIT

The Joint Marine Modesto Defense Committee announces that a benefit dance will be held at California Hall on Saturday, May 23, at 8 p. m. The music will be furnished by Peter Butti's Syncopators, a ten-piece orchestra. An admission fee of 40 cents will be charged.

### AN INCONGRUITY

The times are now on the side of the amendment (child labor). It is recognized that there is something incongruous and socially unhealthy in millions of adults idle and millions of children toiling.—San Francisco "Chronicle."

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